

Elba picks up the trash around town



On Saturday, Feb. 26, many local residents joined the Elba Chamber of Commerce in cleaning up Elba. During the three hours of trash collecting, members of the Elba High School FFA planted trees around the square for the chamber as part of Alabama's plant a tree campaign, and members of the Elba Fire Department grilled hamburgers for all the hard workers. At Noon everyone gathered around the square to eat and share all the "dirty" details from the morning's endeavors.

After all was said and done, the day was deemed a wonderful success with approximately 117 bags of trash being picked up around the city.



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The Elba Clipper

Volume 103, Number 40

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Elba, Alabama Thursday, March 16, 2000

1 Section, 16 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

COMMISSIONERS GIVES SHERIFF MOATES THE GO AHEAD TO FIX THE COUNTY JAIL

Coffee County Commission fires county's chief real property appraiser

by Marvin McLain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission wasted little time in Monday's meeting attending to two pressing matters - an employee's violation of county policy and a jail break.

Commission Chairman Kayo Lewis wasted little time, after attending to housekeeping matters (devotion, pledge, approval of the previous meeting minutes) in asking for a motion to dismiss the county's chief real property appraiser, Angela Byrd.

"According to county policy, I'll have to ask for a motion to terminate Ms. Angela Byrd," Chairman Kayo Lewis

"According to county policy, I'll have to ask for a motion to terminate Ms. Angela Byrd," said Lewis. Commissioner Doug Dalrymple made the motion to terminate Ms. Byrd and Commissioner Linda Westbrook seconded it. There was no discussion and the commission voted unanimously in favor of the dismissal.

Ms. Byrd was stopped by a Coffee County Sheriff's Deputy on March 1 after a report of a vehicle matching the description of the white Jeep Cherokee being driven by Byrd was reported driving erratically. She was charged with DUI after failing to pass a field sobriety test.

At the time of her arrest, two blood tests were administered to Ms. Byrd, one was sent to the state forensic lab and the other to an independent testing lab in accordance with county policy.

On March 8, Ms. Byrd was suspended by her immediate supervisor, Coffee County Revenue Com-

missioner Ronnie Burns, for thirty days after the blood test sent to the independent lab produced a positive result. No information as to what drugs, or quantity, were found as a result of the blood test.

After the vote to dismiss Ms. Byrd was taken, Mr. Burns was given an opportunity to address the commission concerning the matter.

He began, "All of you I'm sure are aware of the things that have happened in the past week and a half and certainly I am. I wish the motion that you have made had not been made prior to me speaking to you. I have in my hand an attorney general's opinion. It says in that opinion, that the Coffee County Commission or any commission in the state of Alabama doesn't have the right to hire or fire an employee of the revenue commissioner's office."

Burns told commissioners he did not think the results of the blood test stating that he felt that there are legal ramifications involved. He referred to a case in law involving the Winston County Commission in which the decision in that case said the authority to hire or fire an employee of the revenue commissioner nor the probate judge's office.

In connection to this, Burns questioned the results of the blood test administered to Ms. Byrd being made known to the commission. He said policy states the results are to be made known only to her employer and the medical review officer.

"The question here is, is the commission her employer?" said Burns. However, according to the Alabama Code of 1975, Act 102, employees in the offices of the probate judge, tax assessor and tax collector's office are county employees, except for the chief clerks in the respective offices.

It is the intent of this act that all



Ms. Angela Byrd

employees provided for in this act shall be employees of the county government bodies on a permanent basis other than the two chief clerks of the office holders of the offices of probate judge, tax assessor, tax collector and circuit clerk.

Office holders of the offices of probate judge, tax assessor, tax collector and circuit clerk shall make recommendations concerning their respective offices before vacancies or new positions are filled by the county governing bodies.

The circuit clerk's office has since been excluded from the provisions of Act 102.

Burns went on to say that he had to oppose the commission on this matter because he felt they had taken the authority away from him over his people or the people in the revenue commissioner's office.

"Whether it be right or wrong, what you have done it's not right in the aspect that you have terminated an employee that is not employed by you. She is employed by me, and she can be terminated by me," said Burns. He feels the law is very clear

on that.

"I was not given an opportunity to speak to you on that point. You took it on yourselves to do what you've done this morning," said Burns.

The revenue commissioner addressed the commission several minutes repeating himself several times on the point as to who had the authority to hire or fire the employees of his office.

He commented several times that he felt the action taken by the commission was politically motivated. "I think it has been brought to this position by a select few members of this commission who are trying to make it tough not only for my employees but for me," said Burns. "I don't appreciate that. I think this is politics at its absolute dirtiest."

For the past several weeks, Byrd has been the focus of attention of the local news media, not only as a result of her DUI charge, but due to recent harassment charges stemming from two separate parking lot incidents that occurred in Enterprise.

In addition to the above incidents, Ms. Byrd was indirectly involved in another DUI charge against an individual, Anthony Brandt, who was illegally operating the 1998 Jeep Cherokee assigned to Ms. Byrd. Brandt shares a residence with Ms. Byrd in Enterprise.

On January 15, Brandt was stopped by Enterprise police while driving the Jeep Cherokee with a tag registered to another vehicle on it instead of the county tag. The county decals had also been removed from the vehicle. He was charged with DUI and unauthorized use of a vehicle. Ms. Byrd contended that she was unaware the vehicle had been taken by Brandt.

There have been some concerns as to Ms. Byrd's qualifications as the county's chief real property appraiser since she is not a certified appraiser. According to the Coffee County job description for real property appraisers in the county, they are required to attend real property certification program courses on Alabama's appraisal manual. Upon their completion of this requirement, they are to take certification exams at the first avail-

able time. According to reports, Ms. Byrd has taken the exam on three occasions and has failed to pass. Her annual salary is in excess of \$41,000.

After Mr. Burns finished addressing the commission, he concluded, "I hope the people of this county trust what I do. I've always done the right thing and done it properly, and that is my intent here. I was never given that opportunity."

There was no response from the commission to Mr. Burns' remarks; however, during the general business from the commissioners, Commissioner Dalrymple commented that Mr. Burns was given the opportunity to address this matter with the commission prior to Monday's meeting.

Turning to the matter of the jail

break, Chairman Lewis commented that although the prisoners did escape through a vent and through the ceiling, they first had to get out of their jail cells. He noted that the prisoners were in two different cells.

Lewis expressed his concern that the two were able to get out of their cells, remove a panel held in place with special screws, and enter what is being called a plumbing chase making their way to the ceiling, and later to the ground and over the fence - all without being noticed by the correction staff.

"I'll agree that the vent should have been fixed a long time ago, but that was not what caused them to escape," said Lewis. "They got out

Continued on Page 14



FLOWERED SQUARES. Mike McKee (standing) and Jimmy Harrison (kneeling) served as gardeners recently on the square in downtown Elba when they planted new flowers in the flower bed in front of the Elba Police Department. The plot in front of the police station was reworked so it could serve as an example for the remaining plots located in front of businesses around the square. The Elba Chamber of Commerce is seeking sponsors for these plots. Any business, club, individual, etc. interested in sponsoring one of the flower beds is encouraged to contact the chamber office. Blooming flowers around the square is just one of the many ways the chamber is working to beautify Elba and the historic downtown square.

City Council moves forward with improvement projects

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council moved another step closer to getting a critical need drainage project underway in Elba Monday evening when they authorized Mayor Grimes to seek bids on construction of the \$300,000 first phase of the project.

This project is partially funded with a matching fund disaster recovery grant and is designed to improve drainage problems on Putnam Avenue and Martin Luther King Drive. The second phase, funded with a supplemental matching fund disaster recovery grant will expand the Putnam Avenue upgrade area back up to The Methodist Church on the East and replace small drain pipes running off of Davis Street. Grimes reminded council members earlier that city crews found at least one case of three 24" pipes emptying into one 15" pipe. This is one of the smaller pipes scheduled to be replaced.

The council also authorized the application for a communication grant from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) to help fund fiber optics to area schools when and if the City of Elba does go forward with the proposed fiber optic cable TV network. Grimes said there is a deadline on applying for the grant funds.

Elba resident Chris Foley addressed the council with a complaint on excessive noise from boom boxes at night when people are trying to sleep. He noted that people can't sleep with the boom, boom, boom rattling windows. Police Chief R. W. Whitworth added that several arrests have been made on this recently and that he will encourage his officers to step up the enforcement of the noise ordinance. The council agreed this was the way this problem should be handled.

Monthly bills totaling \$20,654.86 were approved for payment. They included \$31,313.31 for vehicle and equipment repair and maintenance; \$1506.35 for advertisements; \$1044 for police ammo; \$697.39 for asphalt mix; \$1680 for annual pest control in city buildings and \$1350 for rental on the NCIC machine at the police department.

Whitworth reported to the council that the County Commission reversed their action of two weeks ago and approved a \$750 monthly payment to Elba to assist in the funding of the additional 911 radio operators in the police department. A monthly summary of Elba Police Department activities show a large disparity in the number of traffic tickets and warnings issued by vari-

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NOTICE

Effective immediately, the Coffee County Emergency Communications Board can be reached at (334)894-1305. Matters dealing with the county's Enhanced 911 system such as requests for new or existing addresses or concerning the 911 database should be directed to this number. Matters relating to the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency should continue to be directed to (334)894-5415.

Area Happenings

MISS ELBA PAGEANT. The 1999 Miss Elba pageant will be held on March 19 at the Elba High School gymnasium. Admission is \$4 and children under 12 years old will be admitted for free. The Elba Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the pageant to come out and support their beautiful queen. The queen will be crowned at the queen of the "New Millennium."

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. The Elba Public School System is accepting kindergarten registrations for the 2000-2001 school year. Registration is open until 2 p.m. in the Elba Public School System. Registration is free. The school system is accepting registrations for children who are 5 years old as of September 1, 2000.

ELBA POLICE DEPARTMENT. The Elba Police Department is currently accepting applications for police officers. The department is looking for individuals who are interested in law enforcement and are willing to undergo the rigorous training process. Applications should be submitted to the Elba Police Department.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

Last Tuesday evening we got a real lesson in reality and an example that the world is moving much too fast for those of us with the gray in our hair. While it is not unusual, try as we might, for us to make mistakes, believe it or not, we do catch a bunch of them. However, last Tuesday evening it hit our brain like a bolt of lightning that for the second week in a row Brainstorms had a mistake in the date a public official was going to be speaking in the area. This time it was the governor. Well, we raced to make a correction, but it is not that simple. You see, embracing all this modern technology, we make up the newspaper completely in the computer and taking it an additional step, we then transmit the completed page to the printer via the internet and boom it is all done. The book says we can recall that page and make corrections . . . no problem. Ha, no problem until you try to do it. We made the corrections and sent the corrected page, just like the book said, but it never caught up with the other Elba Clipper pages! So, somewhere out there in that cyberspace world is still floating around (or something) a corrected copy of Brainstorms for March 9, 2000, but it is not the one which hit the printing press sometime between 6:30 p.m. the time of the correction and when the electronic world met the printing press just before daylight Wednesday morning. Hopefully the only people planning to join Governor Siegelman Monday morning in Troy already knew about it and didn't get messed up by our confusion.

If you did catch the governor in Troy, Andalusia or Dothan Monday, or saw replays of it on the tube Monday evening, you probably join us in being amazed at everything he has going on for the people of Alabama. It is a strong agenda and most of it gets the green light from this corner. However, there are some bugs in several of his projects and hopefully the end results will be better than what they started with in the legislature last month.

The proposed changes in the school teacher tenure law sound great on the surface, but school administrators across the state note it will actually increase the red tape on dismissing unqualified teachers. (B) The move to increase teacher pay to the national average sound great, but doing it all in one bill could cause troubles if there is an economic downturn and the tax monies don't increase enough in future years to fund the raises. (C) Also, the national average teacher pay increases every time any state gives pay raises, thus it is an ever climbing unknown. We hope the legislature confines the teacher raises to a one year deal and addresses the balance on a year-to-year basis. (D) and that teachers will accept some sort of true "new teacher testing" . . . that would be a compliment to the many qualified teachers in Alabama (E) The open meetings bill being debated in the legislature also sounds great for "the people" but looking at the wording we see some holes industrious politicians can use to hide even more public business from the people.

Don't forget to vote next Tuesday. There is only one issue on the ballot and it is to increase the income tax on corporations from 5% to 6.5%. The swap off is dropping of a corporation tax on assets and is faster on the companies while generating more money for running state government. This is unusual in that the state business council designed this tax change and it's members are supporting the added tax on themselves! Actually the tax will directly impact this newspaper, as accountants long ago decreed it should be part of a corporation, but we will be voting "yes" on Tuesday. Hopefully the business will make some money in the next year or so and get the chance to pay the extra income tax!

D. Land K. Dyess, M.D.
ANNOUNCES RELOCATION

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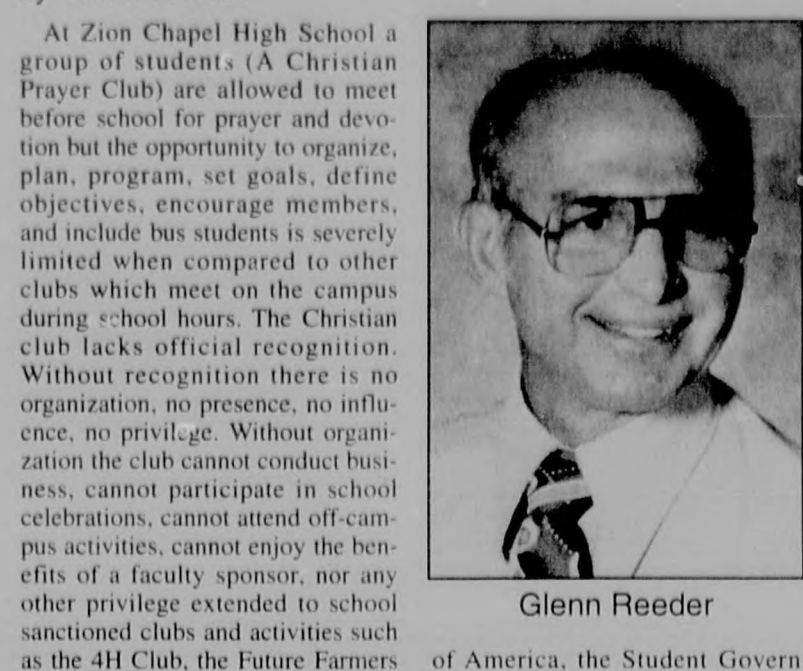
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 Months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Why not a Christian Club on the school campus like other student clubs and activities?
by Glenn Reeder

Glenn Reeder

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, March 6, 1999, investigated the following incidents: one criminal mischief, six forgeries, two harassments, one unlawful entry of a vehicle, three thefts of property, one house fire, one failure to pay for gas, one threatening phone call, one burglary, one death investigation, one criminal trespass, one DUI, one property damage, and one disturbing phone call.

The following arrests were made: one on a judge's pick-up order. Three for harassment, one for criminal mischief, three for failure to appear, one for violation of the leash law, and one for theft of property.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for driver's license, ten for speeding, one for running a red light, two for violation of school law, three for violation of child restraint law, one for no tag, two for running a stop sign, three for driving while driver's license are suspended, and two for driving while driver's license are revoked.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, MARCH 6 - River stage - 4.06 (6:10 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Ann St. (2:34 a.m.); River stage - 4.07 (6:10 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Martin Luther King Dr. (8:04 a.m.); Fire reported to a fire on Smith Ave. (11:14 a.m.); Alarm at the National Guard Armory on Airport Rd. (11:23 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Mullins Apts. (4:46 p.m.).

FRIDAY, MARCH 10 - Alarm at the Elba Texaco Food Mart (3:52 a.m.); River stage - 4.04 (6:10 a.m.); Alarm at the Elba Texaco Food Mart (7:42 a.m.); Wreck reported on U.S. Hwy. 84 at Pea River Bridge (3:58 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on U.S. Hwy. 84 at Pea River Bridge (4:05 p.m.); Fire department dispatched to a wreck on U.S. Hwy. 84 at Pea River Bridge (4:09 p.m.); Alarm at the Jewel Box (7:30 p.m.).

SATURDAY, MARCH 11 - River stage - 3.83 (6:09 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on AL Hwy. 125N (9:18 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to a wreck on AL Hwy. 125N (9:30 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Co. Rd. 407 (6:50 p.m.).

SUNDAY, MARCH 12 - River stage - 4.22 (6:42 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Mullins Apts. (7:58 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Elm Ave. (11:05 a.m.); Alarm at Southeast Pharmaceuticals (4:16 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on U.S. Hwy. 84 at Pea River Bridge (4:05 p.m.); Fire department dispatched to a wreck on U.S. Hwy. 84 at Pea River Bridge (4:09 p.m.); Alarm at the Jewel Box (7:30 p.m.).

TUESDAY, MARCH 7 - River stage - 4.42 (6:38 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to a gas leak on Dr. Roberts Dr. (7:06 p.m.).

- BULLETIN BOARD**
- **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** - Court house 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213
 - **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon. First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
 - **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** - Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
 - **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall
 - **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall
 - **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6:30 p.m. - Elba United Methodist Church - enter on side on W. Davis St. - Maggie Garrett Classroom
 - **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex & New Brockton
 - **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. - Senior Citizens Center
 - **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - Supper Office
 - **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
 - **MAXSON LODGE 170** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.
 - **BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School
 - **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 - New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858
 - **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 1 p.m. - Club House
 - **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon. Colony Inn, Enterprise
 - **AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 1st Tues. day at noon. City Hall Conference Room
 - **AAFP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
 - **CIVIL AIR PATROL** - Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport - Driscoll hangar
 - **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - Mondays - 6:30 p.m. - Elba Cafeteria
 - **ZION CHAPEL CRIME WATCH** is First Thursday night - 7:00 pm of each month at the 27 Fire Department
 - **WOODMAN OF THE WORLD LODGE 1932** - 4th Thursday night of the month @ 7:00 p.m. at the Woodman Lodge located at 510 W. Simmons Street, Elba.

ment Association, the Future Business Leaders of America, and the BETA Clubs. Let me explain, we all need to know.

The Christian Club, BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, at Zion Chapel High School was established in May, 1999 (last school year). Forty to fifty students participate regularly. Many of these students meet in small groups (3 to 5 each) sometime during the school day, between classes, on breaks, during lunch, and as other opportunities exist to pray for their school, their teachers, their friends, their churches, their families, lost students, and what ever burdens their spirits at the time. More students could be brought into BELIEVERS IN CHRIST and incorporated into the small group prayer ministry if the Club could meet during school hours. Recently an interesting bit of statistics was revealed about the BELIEVERS IN CHRIST outreach: of the 42 students at a Friday morning meeting, nine local churches were represented, 12 students did not claim a home church, and 16 students present were not saved. This club is reaching young people for Christ on the Zion Chapel campus which the church cannot reach.

The request for BELIEVERS IN CHRIST to meet one hour each month during school hours was denied by school authorities at Zion Chapel. The subsequent appeal to the Superintendent ended with the Board of Education on two separate occasions. The Board tabled the request on the first visit for the School Attorney to review the Board Policy on Equal Access. The second visit adjourned after a lively discussion but without the request ever being put into the form of a motion and voted on.

Equal Access is a simple concept: "Whatever you do for one group you must do for all other like groups." But groups on school campuses are not all created alike! Students are classified as either "curriculum related clubs and activities" or they are 11 non curriculum related clubs and activities. We do not believe the existence of an enemy to the School System, a friend, lifting up those who honor Christian precepts for living which are so desirable in the community and on the school campus. We do not believe the existence of an enemy to the School System, a friend, lifting up those who honor Christian precepts for living which are so desirable in the community and on the school campus.

The Christian community is not an enemy to the School System, a friend, lifting up those who honor Christian precepts for living which are so desirable in the community and on the school campus. We do not believe the existence of an enemy to the School System, a friend, lifting up those who honor Christian precepts for living which are so desirable in the community and on the school campus.

Our Coffee County Board of Education is not an imperial board exercising absolute authority over our students, but it is the legally constituted vehicle whereby local control is brought to bear on the administration of our school system. This Equal Access Policy of the Coffee County Board of Education must be moderated to accommodate Christian students wishing to organize for Christian expression on their school campus.

Glenn Reeder is a friend of the Christian Club, BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, and a resident of Coffee County, Alabama.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of March 7, 2000, through March 13, 2000. They were: Jennie Crawley, Fred Cox, Lloyd White, Ella Robinson, April McNeil, Robert Faulk, Harry Griffin, Jr., Roy Jackson, Edward Griffin, Johnny Mulkey, Jessie Smith, Joe Ann Warren, Christina McCown, Shacia Renna Parrish, Gordie Houston, H. K. Davis, Lewis Sexton, Bonnie Nelson, Mary Alice Wise, Minnie Matthews, Bonnie Ramer, Doug Armstrong, Christie Champion, Dwight Grantham, Ellis Eddins, Fred Lee, Cathan Guley, Lillian Childs, Arkie Hodge, Shannon Catrett, Hester McGowan, Ruth Harelson, Veneria Boutwell, and Lillian Pynes.

Persons discharged during the same time period were Betty Spinner, Ruth Harelson, Annie Quattlebaum, Robert Faulk, Roy Jackson, Jannie Kelly, Trudie Jackson, Johnny Mulkey, Fred Cox, April McNeil, Lloyd White, Frances McCown, Shacia Renna Parrish, H. K. Davis, Jessie Smith, Minnie Matthews, Mary Alice Wise, Shacia Renna Parrish, Gennie Crawley, Ella Robinson, Bonnie Nelson, Christie Champion, Dwight Grantham, Ellis Eddins, Fred Lee, Cathan Guley, Lillian Childs, Arkie Hodge, Shannon Catrett, Hester McGowan, Ruth Harelson, Veneria Boutwell, and Lillian Pynes.

CLIP AND SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

Notice
What to do if you smell gas.

For your safety, our natural gas has a strong odor so you can readily detect a leak. If you smell gas in or around your home or business, please follow these procedures.

- Turn off all nearby flames
- Evacuate the building.
- Leave the exit door open on the way out.
- Go to a neighbor's home or business and call your local Southeast Alabama Gas District office.
- Always have a qualified person turn you gas back on and relight all pilot lights.
- Don't try to find the leak yourself with a match, candle or any device.
- Don't touch the lights on or off.
- Don't switch on any electrical equipment or appliances.
- Don't light any gas appliances or equipment.

Natural gas is one of the safest forms of energy you can use. However, it is possible through misuse or accident to have a gas leak.

After hours or an emergency, call 1-800-660-8683.
The Southeast Alabama Gas District

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you as a concerned parent on the issue of the increasing weight of our children's backpacks. I have noticed the hump developing in my 11-year-old's back from carrying a 45-pound school backpack. My son weighs about 70 pounds. He is being asked to carry over half his body weight home everyday from school. I spoke with several parents about this and we seem to be experiencing pretty much the same problems in motivating our children to get down after the school day and complete their homework assignments. Now being a child once myself I can think back to my days of burning the midnight oil to make sure I was able to pass that all-important spelling test. But, I can't recall having to pass a physical requirement of an ant to be able to lift over half my body weight to do so. My son has only a short walk from the bus stop to his front door, however, when he does reach home he looks as though he has carried the bus home rather than rode the bus home.

I would hope that other parents have addressed this issue with the school system. I hope that a cost effective and reasonable solution can be found. I would like to see if I am sending an 11 year child to school to gain all the education needed for him to someday be a productive member of the community rather than turning him into a pack mule.

Sincerely,
Carol Vileta
7 Bay Ridge Loop
Mascotte, FL 34753

Dear Editor:

Well, once again our "State of the art" jail has failed! When will this situation be resolved? I, as well as a lot of other citizens, would like an answer!

When an inmate escapes, it seems to me that the route taken to leave would be immediately corrected. But apparently this is not the case with our county jail.

It is had enough that the families have to endure the nightmare of the crime, go through the trial reliving all of the details but to know the perpetrator of the crime has escaped in such a matter, is just too much for an individual to tolerate. Will someone have to be hurt physically for something to be done at the jail?

I have never been jailed for a crime, but I can only hope if I do, I'm incarcerated at the Coffee County Jail.

Dawn Plant
1299 County Road 263
Elba, Alabama 36523

Dear Editor:

I was home last week, I wish I still lived in Ala. The people there are such nice and friendly people. I miss that most of all.

I live in the fast lane here, and really don't even know my neighbors next door. I have lots of kin people in Elba, and I will be back soon. It had been 12 years since I had been home this time. Way too long.

I could just write Thank You cards, but I think Elba's people needs to read this also. I don't even know some of the people's names that I am thanking, but they will know who they are.

CARDS OF THANK

JOHNSON FAMILY
The family of Stacy L. Johnson would like to thank everyone for their calls, visits, food, flowers, prayers and acts of kindness shown to us during his illness and death. Stacy touched the lives of so many people, and he will be greatly missed.

May God Bless you all.
Elvester, Tony and Timmy Johnson
3/16/00

BOWERS FAMILY
I would like to express a sincere "thank you" to everyone who expressed so much concern for me during my treatments and hospitalization. I appreciate every card, phone call, word of encouragement, and most of all — your prayers on my behalf.

May God Bless you all.
Ricky Bowers & Family
3/16/00

FAX SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER
393-6673 • 800-866-1368
DOLLAR BURNING SERVICE • 1-800-666-1368

AREA DEATHS

WILLIAM RICHARD HODGE

Mr. William Richard Hodge, age 92, of 8232 Old Three Notch Rd., Glenwood, Ala., died March 7, 2000 at Crenshaw Baptist Medical Center.

Funeral services were held March 10, 2000 at Mt. Vernon Assembly of God Church with Rev. Eddie Davis and Rev. Ray Layton officiating. Burial followed in the Antioch Church Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include four sons: Fred Hodge, Kinston, Rayford Hodge, Elba, Lloyd Hodge, Troy, Foy Hodge, Luverne; three daughters: Ethelne Besdole, Brantley, Irene Norton, Brundidge, Shirley Beck, Glenwood; two brothers: Fletcher Hodge, Elba, Leavie Hodge, Deatsville, Ala.; three sisters: Minnie Johnson, Samson, Leola Harelson, Jack, Maudie Shekofska, Montgomery; 26 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

ANITA LOUISE BOUTWELL SPEAR

Mrs. Anita Louise Boutwell Spear, age 64, of Rt. 1, Box 56, Jack, Ala., died March 8, 2000 at Flowers Hospital in Dothan.

Funeral services were held March 10, 2000 at Chestnut Grove Methodist Church with Rev. Donnie Marler and Rev. Ray Stinson officiating. Burial followed in the Chestnut Grove Methodist Church Cemetery with Dillard Funeral Home of Brundidge directing.

Mrs. Spear was preceded in death by her husband, William (Buddy) Judson Spear Sr.; her parents, Freeman and Mollie Boutwell; and a brother, Escar Boutwell.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law: Anita and Randy Grant, Bluff Springs Community; Beth and Gene Copeland, Hartford, Ala.; two sons and daughter-in-law: William Judson Spear Jr., Jack, Gerald G. and Nora T. Spear, Jack; grandchildren: Joanie, Buddy, Cynthia, Alex, Michael, Jason, Adam, Tara, Todd, Timmy, Jessica, Deanna and Clayton; great-grandchildren: Tristen, Timmy and Annabella; three sisters: Sarah Pittman, Troy, Shirley Nelson, Rocksbrough, N.C., Patricia Boutwell, Jack; two brothers: Rayford Boutwell, Ozark and Rendall Boutwell, Troy.

ESSIE L. BULLARD

Mrs. Essie L. Bullard, born Jan. 26, 1928 to the late Mr. Arthur and Mrs. Verna Mae Woods, died recently.

Funeral services were held March 11, 2000 at Southside Church of Christ in Enterprise with Bro. Ira H. Belford officiating. Burial followed in the Mt. Calvary Cemetery with Coleman Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Survivors include her husband: Dallas Bullard; two daughters: Eva L. Gadsden and Carrie B. Alderman, West Palm Beach, Fla.; two sons-in-law: Eugene Gadsden and Clyden Alderman, West Palm Beach, Fla.; three sisters: Pearlina (Jackson), Catherine Helms (Edward) and Deonia Wood, Enterprise; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

LUDYNE CHANDLER

Mrs. Ludyne Chandler, age 61, of 215 Fox Drive, Elba, Ala., died March 11, 2000 at her residence.

Funeral services were held March 13, 2000 at Weed Baptist Church with Rev. Doug Lawson, Rev. Ruby Nell Lawson and Rev. Wilburn Kirkland officiating. Burial followed in the Veasey Church Cemetery in Dozier, Ala., with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Survivors include her husband: James Chandler, Elba; three daughters: Terry Chandler, Troy, Sherry Hudson, Brantley, Rita Mitchell, Opp; two sons: Larry Chandler and Ricky Chandler, both of Enterprise; two brothers: Vaughan Johnson and Howard Johnson, both of Enterprise; one sister: Betty Wilkerson, Samson; 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

PHILLIP DALE MILES

Mr. Phillip Dale Miles, age 42, of 4858 County Road 410, Elba, Ala., died March 13, 2000 at Flowers Hospital in Dothan.

Funeral services were held March 15, 2000 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints with Rev. Wayne James Parker officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Miles was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph Dale Miles. Survivors include his wife: Kristy Kaye Miles, Elba; his father and mother: Melvin Virgil and Anne Elizabeth Miles, Elba; two daughters: Deanna and Gale Olson, both of Elba; two sons: Michael and James Olson, both of Elba; a brother: Charles A. Miles, Prattville; two sisters: Jeanette Donaldson and Judy Turner, both of Elba.

Mrs. Chandler was preceded in death by her parents, Malcolm and Ruby Lois Johnson, and a brother, Todd Johnson.

Survivors include her husband: James Chandler, Elba; three daughters: Terry Chandler, Troy, Sherry Hudson, Brantley, Rita Mitchell, Opp; two sons: Larry Chandler and Ricky Chandler, both of Enterprise; two brothers: Vaughan Johnson and Howard Johnson, both of Enterprise; one sister: Betty Wilkerson, Samson; 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Survivors include one daughter: Lillian McCarly, Elba; two sons: Ervin G. Tweed, Muldine, Ga., Earl E. Tweed, Dallas, Texas; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

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Mrs. Miles was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph Dale Miles. Survivors include his wife: Kristy Kaye Miles, Elba; his father and mother: Melvin Virgil and Anne Elizabeth Miles, Elba; two daughters: Deanna and Gale Olson, both of Elba; two sons: Michael and James Olson, both of Elba; a brother: Charles A. Miles, Prattville; two sisters: Jeanette Donaldson and Judy Turner, both of Elba.

ROY ALBERT RHODE

Mr. Roy Albert Rhode, age 76, of Elba, Ala., died March 7, 2000.

Mr. Rhode served in World War II in the United States Coast Guard. He was also a member of the American Legion and was a retired mail carrier of Punta Gorda, Fla.

Memorial services were held March 14, 2000 in the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home of Elba with Dr. Tony Dye officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Annie Mae Lee, Elba; two brothers: Cecil "Buck" Lee, Richmond, Texas, Donald Lee, Elba; and two sisters: Pat Mullins, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. and Ruth Kiser, Highland Home, Ala.

VIOLA MABLE TWEED

Mrs. Viola Mable Tweed, age 94, of 191 County Road 370, Elba, Ala., died March 11, 2000 at Enterprise Nursing Home.

Survivors include her husband: Fred Lee, age 69, of 901 Elm Ave., Elba, Ala., died March 12, 2000 at Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services were held March 14, 2000 in the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home of Elba with Dr. Tony Dye officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Annie Mae Lee, Elba; two brothers: Cecil "Buck" Lee, Richmond, Texas, Donald Lee, Elba; and two sisters: Pat Mullins, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. and Ruth Kiser, Highland Home, Ala.

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Funeral services were held March 13, 2000 at Weed Baptist Church with Rev. Doug Lawson, Rev. Ruby Nell Lawson and Rev. Wilburn Kirkland officiating. Burial followed in the Veasey Church Cemetery in Dozier, Ala., with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Survivors include her husband: James Chandler, Elba; three daughters: Terry Chandler, Troy, Sherry Hudson, Brantley, Rita Mitchell, Opp; two sons: Larry Chandler and Ricky Chandler, both of Enterprise; two brothers: Vaughan Johnson and Howard Johnson, both of Enterprise; one sister: Betty Wilkerson, Samson; 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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Mrs. Miles was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph Dale Miles. Survivors include his wife: Kristy Kaye Miles, Elba; his father and mother: Melvin Virgil and Anne Elizabeth Miles, Elba; two daughters: Deanna and Gale Olson, both of Elba; two sons: Michael and James Olson, both of Elba; a brother: Charles A. Miles, Prattville; two sisters: Jeanette Donaldson and Judy Turner, both of Elba.

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Funeral services were held March 13, 2000 at Weed Baptist Church with Rev. Doug Lawson, Rev. Ruby Nell Lawson and Rev. Wilburn Kirkland officiating. Burial followed in the Veasey Church Cemetery in Dozier, Ala., with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

CHURCH

Kevin Spencer to be in concert at Country Cathedral March 16th



The Kevin Spencer Family

Kevin Spencer will be in concert Thursday, March 16, at Country Cathedral, located on U.S. Hwy. 84 E. of Opp.

Kevin Spencer is the artist of the song, "The Blood is Still There," and many more top Southern Gospel hits.

The concert will start at 7 p.m. No admission charge. Everyone welcome.

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ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA

897-2006

Scripture: St. John 10:14-17

***Thinking of you, praying for you: The Bullard, Chandler, Cole, Tyson, Williams, Byrd and Gibson families, Cathan Knight, Rev. E. Magwood, Mary B. Belcher, Hatte Bell Carpenter, Vick E. Lindsey, W.H. Caldwell, Glenn Kelley, Pearlille Tills, Mary E. Holley, Amanda McBrine, Beulah Horsted, Clinton Carpenter.

***Come Celebrate with us on our Annual Missionary Day at Goshen First Baptist Church Sunday, March 19, at 11 a.m. The guest speaker will be Minister Joyce Belcher Johnson, assistant pastor of Hopewell Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, Leighton, Ala.

***I Don't Have to Walk Alone There were times in my life I thought I could walk alone, but I prayed to my Father in heaven Father, not my will but thine be done

Harris Temple C.O.G.I.C. Workshop Appreciation Service to be held

Harris Temple C.O.G.I.C. will host a Workshop Appreciation Service honoring Bro. Marcus Reese on March 30-31 with the concert being held Saturday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m. Clinicians will be Elder W.K. Ellison and Bro. Marcus Reese. The workshop rehearsals will begin at 6:30 p.m. nightly. There will be registration fee of \$5.

Prophecy speaker at New Brockton UMC

Rev. William Wilson will speak on Prophecy at New Brockton UMC, Sunday evening, March 19, at 6 o'clock.

Rev. Wilson speaks on the subject of Prophecy as pertaining to Israel and the world each third Sunday at New Brockton.

Everyone welcome.

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Danley's Cross Roads cemetery committee will be held on March 25, at 9 a.m. in the County voting house near the cemetery. All persons who are interested in the upkeep of the cemetery are encouraged to attend.

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Vanderbilt Holiness Church to sponsor BBQ March 18th

Vanderbilt Holiness Church will sponsor a BBQ this Saturday, March 18, at the Victoria Community Center on Highway 125 north of Elba, south of Brundidge. Serving will begin at 10:30 a.m. Plates will be \$5 each with whole hog barbecue, rice, baked beans, bread, and cake. Camp Stew will also be available. For more information or to place an order, call 897-3778. Proceeds from the BBQ will go toward the completion of a new church building.

PASTOR'S CORNER

REV. HOMER MOORE
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

The Never Forsaking God

"He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you' (Hebrews 13:5). What line of thinking do my thoughts take today? Do I turn to what God says 'or am I learning to truly hear him and then to respond after I have heard what he says?' For He Himself has said 'I will never leave you nor forsake you...' So we may boldly say as Hebrew 13:5 says '...The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me. The promise '...The Lord will never leave you...' is still for you and me today. He will not leave you for any reason, not for sin, selfishness, stubbornness, nor waywardness.

Have I really let God say to me that He will never leave me? If I have not truly heard this assurance of God, then it's time to listen and listen closely.

"I will never... forsake you". Sometimes it is not the difficulty of life but the drudgery of it that makes me think God will forsake me. When there is no major difficulty to overcome, no vision from God, nothing wonderful or beautiful, just the everyday activities of life, I can be assured that God is still with me. Remember God has never broken a promise and He's not about to start with you. I'm reminded of the man that had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord, across the sky flashed scenes from his life. In each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him and the other to the Lord. When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life, there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me." The Lord replied, "my precious, precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trials and suffering, when you only saw one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you. 'Let the Lord carry you as often as He desires. That's his way of showing His love to you and always remember his words, '...I will never leave you nor forsake you. That is his promise!'"

Kids Crusade to be held at Mt. Vernon Assembly of God

Mt. Vernon Assembly of God will hold a Kid Crusade, March 17 & 18 at 7:00 p.m. and March 19 at 5:00 p.m., featuring The Sunshine Gang.

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Even Worship... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.
NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Ben Anglin, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.
NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Ray Layton, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
KINSTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
John Freeman, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
MULBERRY HTS. CHURCH OF CHRIST
R. B. Williams, Minister
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
MUSTARD SEED FOUNDATION
Mary Seaves
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service... 5:00 p.m.
NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Loreal Flowers, Minister
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. & 4th Sundays
OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Rev. Keith Price, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.
NEW BROCKTON METHODIST
Rev. Ben McKee, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.
ROCKY HEAD M.B. CHURCH
A. K. Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. & 4th Sundays
NEWBRIA BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Wayne Webster
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.
MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.
MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Bobby Driver, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 7:00 p.m.
MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Robert McWaters, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 7:00 p.m.
NEW EBENEZER BAPTIST
Rev. Faron Golden, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
Larry Wise, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

Church Directory

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
Randy Neal, Minister
Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY
J. L. Wesley, Pastor
Sunday School... 8:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Afternoon... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.
BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Darryl Caldwell, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class... 6:30 p.m.
BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Elbert Smith, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.
BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.
CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST
Rev. Bennett Abbott, Pastor
Church Service... 9:30 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
E. H. Hill, Minister
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School... 12:00 noon
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.
DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. William Frank, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.
DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH
Dorcas Barker, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.
FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Dorcas Barker, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.
FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting... 7:00 p.m.
FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Dorcas Barker, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

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LIFESTYLES



MRS. MYRTIE HICKMAN WAS HONORED BY A BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Gene Eastburn. Several members of Mrs. Hickman's Sunday School Class were in attendance. Pictured from left to right are: Cindy Shuck, granddaughter; Mrs. Myrtle Hickman, honoree; and Judy Eastburn, daughter. Others attending this special luncheon were: Edna Smart, Edna Morrow, Felicia Revels, Annette Reddock, Pat Moore, Claude Mae Sanders, Nell Lawford, Fran Lawford Hoskins, and Ella Jean Vaughan.

Richard A. Kemp II receives award

Richard A. Kemp II, of Ozark, received the highest award authorized by the Alabama Society, Sons of the American Revolution, during the group's 111th convention Feb. 25-26 in Huntsville.

The Patriot Medal was presented by Hoyt O. Smith of Toney, outgoing state society president, in recognition of Kemp's extended service to the patriotic organization.

The Patriot Medal is awarded only by a state society in recognition of long and faithful service.

During the 1999 convention, Kemp was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal from the Alabama Society, the first to be presented in Alabama.

His other awards include the War Service Medal with bars for WW II, Korean and Vietnam conflicts, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Liberty medal and the Color Guard Medal.

He currently serves as the president of the Wiregrass Chapter in Enterprise and is a past president of the Tri State Chapter in Dothan. He served the state society as generalist for five years. During the past year, he was the public affairs officer, the color guard commander and the flag committee chairman.

The Sons of the American Revolution offers membership to all men descended from a patriotic ancestor who served the colonies in some manner during the struggle to free them from the control of the British Crown.

Anyone desiring more information may contact Kemp at 774-9965, John Ray Fuller at 347-4213 or John R. Wallace at 347-0661. Interested individuals may also attend a regular meeting of the Wiregrass Chapter with the next scheduled meeting being March 16 at Noon at Fo' Folks Restaurant in Enterprise.

Azalea Garden Club holds March meeting at library

The Azalea Garden Club met at the Elba Public Library on March 8 with Nona Cooper serving as hostess. Members present were: Carol Jackson, Martha Girdner, Martha Guerrero, Ruth Inman, Elaine Martin, Nona Cooper, Betty Vaughan, Kathryn Kelly, Linda Biddle, Betty Rogers, Iva McCreary, Betty Cox, Vivian Lee, Annie Laura Wright and Judy Eastburn. This club picked up a total of 48 bags of trash during the cleanup day on the Square. In the Arbor Day Report submitted to Headquarters, a total of 118 trees were planted by the club members.

Ward honored by Phi Kappa Phi

Shea Ward, a senior at Auburn University, was recently honored by the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She was recognized as the most outstanding First Professional Year student achieving the highest scholastic grade point average in the School of Nursing for her first year. A banquet was held honoring all of the students receiving recognition in their respective schools. The Auburn University Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi selects its members from the upper five percent of the graduates and qualified juniors in each school or college. Shea was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi last summer.

Winter quarter 2000, Shea was asked to become a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society. An invitation to membership is available to the top 35 percent of one's nursing class. Sigma Theta Tau is the second largest and one of the most prestigious nursing organizations in the world. The society's members are active in more than 78 countries and territories, and the 383 chapter honor societies are located on more than 450 college and university campuses in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, South Korea, Taiwan and Australia.

She will be doing a preceptorship this Spring (April-June) at Children's Hospital in Birmingham, where she will work in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. She will graduate from Auburn University June 10, 2000.

A graduate of Elba High School, Shea is the daughter of Robert and Sharon Ward of Elba.



Shea Ward

Pine Leve! School Reunion to be held March 25th

The Pine Level School Reunion will be held March 25 at 10 a.m. in the Elba High School cafeteria. Please bring a covered dish for dinner. Cups, plates, forks, spoons, paper towels and ice will be provided. Teachers and anyone who attended Pine Level School are invited to attend.

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Attorney Mark Vaughan is guest speaker at Twentieth Century Study Club

The Twentieth Century Study Club met Thursday, March 9, at the Elba Public Library. Mrs. Elaine Thompson and Mrs. Betty Vaughan were hostesses for the evening.

The club president, Mrs. Peggy Stroud, presided over the meeting. Mrs. Judy Eastburn, vice president, introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Mark Vaughan, local attorney.

Mr. Vaughan brought the member's attention to the importance of having a will. His talk was followed by a question and answer session in which the participation was excellent. Many questions were asked and all were answered.

Kindergarten Registration to be held at Elba Elementary School

Elba Elementary School will hold Kindergarten Registration on March 23 and 24 from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the EES Conference Room. Parents will need to bring their child's birth certificate, social security card and Alabama state shot record (blue card).

DEADLINE FOR SOCIAL & CHURCH NEWS IS MONDAY!!!!

Clark Theatres • Enterprise
March 17-23
Enterprise Shopping Center
I - MISSION TO MARS (PG)
M-F 7:45-10:15 • S&S 2:45-10:15
II - FINAL DESTINATION (R)
M-F 7:15-10:15 • S&S 2:15-10:15
Wednesday's Child
III - NEXT BEST THING (PG-13)
M-F 7:45-10:15 • S&S 2:45-10:15
IV - WONDER BOYS (R)
M-F 7:45-10:15 • S&S 2:45-10:15
MY DOG SKIP (PG)
S&S 2:00
Friday's Choice: College Plaza
College Plaza
I - ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
M-F 7:45-10:15 • S&S 2:45-10:15
No Passes - No Wed. Night Discounts
II - AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
M-F 7:15-10:15 • S&S 2:15-10:15
III - CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
M-F 7:15-10:15 • S&S 2:15-10:15
Barbie's Matinee: Sat & Sun
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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\$399 each, \$169 each
Raid \$59, Nightstand \$199, TV Stand \$199
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Your Choice Bed, Dresser or Armoire
\$299 each, \$159 each
Raid \$59, Nightstand \$199, TV Stand \$199
ASHLEY
Sofa \$699
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FINALLY, RELIEF FOR THE 90 MILLION AMERICANS SUFFERING FROM FATIGUE, INSOMNIA AND TIRED SALES PITCHES
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Barbie's Matinee: Sat & Sun
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Area News

Reception planned for American Cancer Society Relay For Life Corporate Sponsors

All American Cancer Society Relay For Life Corporate Sponsors are invited to attend a reception in their honor on Thursday, March 23,

at 5:30 p.m. at Carlisle's on Main, 401 South Main Street in Enterprise.

MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe to meet Sunday March 20th

The MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama is having a meeting on Sunday, March 20, at 2 p.m. at the Coffee County Farm Center, Building Complex 2, in New Brockton.

Mr. Allan Friday, a member of the Fast Response Team from the Alabama Department of Economic Development and Community Affairs, will give a presentation on what to do if you have lost or face losing your job, referrals resources and job training.

Attorney Malcolm Grace and other attorneys from Colon, Frantz, Phelan and Price Law Firm in Washington, D.C. will discuss the Native American Farmer's Class Action Lawsuit Against the United States Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Farm Service, and/or other USDA offices. The attorneys will be present to sign up individuals, and this lawsuit is for all states, not just Alabama.

The Coffee County American Cancer Society support group to meet March 21st

The Coffee County American Cancer Society support group will meet at 6:30 p.m. at St. Luke United Methodist Church on March 21.

This meeting is for cancer survivors and families. For more information, contact the ACS office in Enterprise at 308-9619.

Habitat for Humanity to have Ground Breaking Banquet April 8th

Habitat for Humanity of Coffee County will have a Ground Breaking Banquet on Saturday, April 8, at 7 p.m. in the Elba High School commons area. The cost to attend is \$7.

Henderson Bancshares, Inc. reports record earnings for 1999

Henderson Bancshares, Inc. held its annual stockholders' meeting Tuesday, March 7th at Troy Bank and Trust's main office. Henderson Bancshares is the parent company of Troy Bank and Trust Company of Troy and The Peoples Bank of Troy County in Elba. Chairman Sherrill Crowe welcomed those in attendance and reviewed 1999's performance.

Crowe reported earnings of \$3,153,944, an increase of over 14% compared to 1998 earnings. Total assets also increased almost 7% to \$277,488,715.

Crowe pointed out that both banks maintain a strong position in the communities they serve and will continue to bring the desired products and services to customers in each location. Both banks experienced good loan growth in 1999 and Financial Services, Trust and Mortgage Origination departments had record setting years.

Crowe introduced Doris Matthews, President of The Peoples Bank and Gary Guthrie, President of Troy Bank and Trust. According to Matthews, the Elba bank is off to a good start for 2000. With the introduction of debit cards, a new ATM and the employment of Mike Hall as their Financial Services Representative, she is looking forward to a very good year for the Elba bank.

Gary Guthrie reminded the shareholders that the competition for deposit dollars becomes harder each day, but was thankful that our local economy and customers were growing and that their success was helping us. Guthrie stressed the importance of continuing to offer the services of our Trust Department, Financial Services, Insurance and Mortgage Departments. He stated that Troy Bank and Trust would be offering computer banking in 2000 and that the bank's Web page was almost complete.

The Directors of Henderson Bancshares are Sherrill Crowe, Gary Guthrie, Douglas Hawkins, Douglas Mims, Jack Hawkins, Jr., Kenneth Hendricks, Corley Chapman, Jr., Alex Whaley and Mack Gibson.

The Directors of The Peoples Bank of Coffee County are Pete Cash, Drexel Cook, Jim Cook, Walter Cox, Sherrill Crowe, Gary Guthrie, Doris Matthews, Cabert Mills and L.B. Murphree.

Katie Vaughan is finalist for Alabama's Twentieth Annual Homecoming Queen Selection



Katie Vaughan

Miss Katie Vaughan, daughter of Mark and Candace Vaughan of Elba, has been selected as a finalist for Alabama's Twentieth Annual Homecoming Queen Selection to be held April 29 and 30 in Montgomery. She is the Elba High School Homecoming Queen. Alabama's Homecoming Queen will receive a cash scholarship plus an expense paid trip to compete with queens from the other states for America's Homecoming Queen in August in California.

Coffee County's eighth annual Relay For Life will be held April 28-29 on the grounds of Enterprise State Junior College from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. For more information, please call the American Cancer Society office in Enterprise at 308-9619.

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March proclaimed National Eye Donor Month

Tremendous advances have been made in eye, tissue and organ transplantation in recent years, offering the hope of life and/or significant quality of life improvements for many individuals. Yet much remains to be done to overcome the shortage in the supply of donated eyes, tissues and organs.

President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first National Eye Donor Month in 1983, and since then, Congress has designated each March as National Eye Donor Month to improve understanding of the need for increased donation.

In 1999 the Alabama Eye Bank helped restore sight to 691 Alabama

citizens. Nationally, more than 46,000 Americans, ranging in age from a four-month-old to an 80-year-old grandmother, received corneal transplants. Since 1960, eye banks nationwide have made possible more than 700,000 sight restoring corneal transplants. But each year more donors are needed to meet that need. Signing a donor card is a good first step but more importantly, talk to your loved ones and let them know of your donation wishes. Please contact the Alabama Eye Bank at 1-800-423-7811 for further information.

Notice Deadline For Classified & Other Ads Is Noon Tuesday

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

For Low and Very Low Income Families / Single
1, 2, 3 & 4 Bedrooms
All Utilities Furnished Except Electricity
If Interested Contact:
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251 Morrow Village Elba, AL 36323
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5 BIG DAYS OF SAVINGS
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Free Nationwide Service
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WIREMESH BED
Compare at \$149.00
SALE \$74.95

BUNK BEDS
Compare at \$119.00
SALE \$68.00

WIREMESH BED
Compare at \$149.00
SALE \$74.95

WIREMESH BED
Compare at \$149.00
SALE \$74.95

WIREMESH BED
Compare at \$149.00
SALE \$74.95

BUNK BEDS
Compare at \$119.00
SALE \$68.00

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No Reasonable Offer Refused!

BARGAINS BARGAINS

WHIRLPOOL WASHER

SALE \$175

WHIRLPOOL DRYER

SALE \$164

WHIRLPOOL HEAVY DUTY WASHER

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WHIRLPOOL 17.2 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR FREEZER

SALE \$358

MAGIC CHEF CHEST FREEZER

SALE \$228

WHIRLPOOL 16 CU. FT. UPRIGHT FREEZER

SALE \$260

OTHER FREEZERS

SALE \$165

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OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 A.M. TIL 8:00 P.M.
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Hurry For The Best Selection

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24 cu. ft.
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Side by Side, Crushed & Cubed Ice & Water in Door
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SALE \$568

NEW 13.0 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR
No Frost
Compare \$398.00
SALE \$265

KING'S LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE!
KING'S WILL BEAT ALL COMPETITORS' PRICE. SHOP 'EM ALL, BRING US THEIR BEST PRICE. IF WE DON'T BEAT THEIR BEST PRICE - WE'LL GIVE YOU A \$20 BILL!

Co-Op Spotlight



by **Natasha Bannin**
This week's Co-Op spotlight focuses on **Jerry DuBoise**. Jerry is employed at Southern Country Realty where he helps in the office. Jerry is the 17-year-old son of Beth DuBoise and is a junior at Elba High. He is a member of SGA, VICA and is the vice president of the junior class. Jerry's future plans are to attend the ROTC Program at Auburn University.

Jump In Jump Out & Introduce Yourself!



by **Emilee Qualls**
This week's student spotlight focuses on **Jennifer Dyer**. Jennifer is 18 years old and a senior at Elba High School. Her parents are Helen and Walter Dyer. Jennifer was born in Troy, Alabama but was raised in Elba. Jennifer's hobbies include dancing, singing, skating and gossiping with her friends. After high school, Jennifer plans to go to college, but she is undecided about what her major will be. Jennifer says that her favorite thing about Elba High School is that most of her friends attend here along with her.

EAT HEALTHY

Elba FFA Sales Vidalia Onions

The Elba FFA is selling the popular sweet Vidalia Onion as a fundraiser this year until April 6. The world-famous Onions are mild and sweet enough to eat like a fruit. This yellow granex type F hybrid onion is grown in many areas of the country. However, when combined with the South Georgia climate and the soil in the Vidalia area, the granex matures into what has become a gourmet's favorite: the Vidalia.

The Vidalia Onion is certainly unique in the entire world. The sugar content of the onion is comparable to that of an apple or a bottle of cola. It's a mild, succulent onion that is delicious raw on hamburgers, sliced alongside your steak, in a garden of salad, or just eaten raw. It doesn't have the "burn" of your average onion, is low in calories, and is even said to aid in digestion.

One of the reasons that the Vidalia Onion is so sweet is that it retains a high water content. You may want to store your onions in a manner that will prolong their life as far as possible. It should be noted that unlike hotter varieties of onions, these onions will not keep in the same manner. Three methods of storing your Vidalia Onions are:

1) Place onions in ladies-sheer panty hose. Tie a knot between each onion, then cut off bottom of stocking, as you need an onion. Stockings containing onions should be hung in a well-ventilated area.

2) Place onions on wire rack, spreading them so they do not touch each other. Be sure rack is elevated so ventilation is possible under as well as above.

3) Store onions in your refrigerator in a spread fashion. Onions can be frozen for cooking purposes later, but upon thawing will no longer be crisp.

To order your Vidalia Onions check with a FFA member today!

by **Cammie Kelley**
On February 28, Elba High School held a Black History Assembly.

First, the EHS chorus sang several spiritual songs. They all did a great job.

Next, the guest speaker, Dr. J.C. Nobles from Troy, Alabama came and gave an inspiring message. He encouraged all of the student body to "fish in deeper waters." He challenged everyone to try their hardest in school and in the community. He also encouraged everyone to try and change our school, community, and world for the better.

It was a very inspiring and educational assembly. The EHS chorus and Dr. Nobles did a great job!

FAX SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

Tiger Tales
Editors:
Kimberly Ward
Cammie Kelley

Finalist Travel To AEC

by **Emilee Benbow**
On Thursday, Feb. 17, 2000, the ten finalists in the Alabama Electric Cooperative research paper traveled to Andalusia.

The students who were chosen as the top ten from EHS were: Cammie Kelley, Carson Waters, Alan Head, Leanne Maltory, Valerie Moore, Roshanda McKinnon, Amy Kirkland, Amanda Beerenstrauch, Bethany Dye, and Amber Norris. These ten were chosen by Mrs. Padgett from the two eleven grade Advanced English classes.

During their visit to Andalusia they met with other finalists from Opp and Andalusia. They played games and watched movies about AEC and the different points. After this, they traveled to McWilliams Power Plant in Gantt. They also visited the Covington Electric Point A Lodge. Through this they were able to better understand and witness the way electricity is made.

Their first game was Thursday, March 2, at Arton.

Head Coach David Collins will be assisted by Boyd English as they lead the Junior Varsity girls. The JV teams consists of: DeAnn Smith, Missy Sanders, Danae Ware, Stacy Chism, Devri Kilecase, Samantha Williams, Jessica Danford, Michelle Carpenter, Yonnie Procter, Kaci Grantham, Lucy Carlie, Leona Sutley, Hannah Martin, Kristin Barnes, Ashley Gibson, Mallory Allen, Lindsay Lawford, Allison Smith, Greta Robinson and Emily Paul.

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And last but not least, the 2000 Varsity softball team headed by Mike Waters and assistant Coach Ricky Mularz, consists of: Racann McCollough, Kendra Vaughan, Leslie Stinson, Melissa Grantham, Vaughan Boyd, Katie Vaughan, Michelle Daniels, Melissa Mularz, Roshanda McKinnon, Denise Cooper, Annie Jean Campbell, Brittany Daniels, Stacy Chism, Casey Skinner, Aubretta Williams, Danae Ware, Rachel Bludsworth and Devri Kilecase.

Their first game was Tuesday, March 7, in Elba.

Elba Elementary School Menu March 20 - 24, 2000	
BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - Cheese Sandwich, 1/2 Orange, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Taco Salad w/ Salisa, Corn on Cob, 1/2 Apple, Milk
Tuesday - Pancakes, Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Fried Chicken, Rice, English Peas, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Wednesday - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Pizza, Green Salad, Corn, Pear Half, Milk
Thursday - Breakfast Pizza, Peach Cup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Hoagie, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Potato Rounds, Cookie, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Turkey Wiggle, Butterbeans, Buttered Carrots, Roli, Sliced Peaches, Milk

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FAX SERVICE AVAILABLE AT THE ELBA CLIPPER

EHS Band Goes To District Contest

by **Kimberly Ward**
On February 26, 2000, the Elba High School Concert Band traveled to Troy, Alabama to compete in District Contest.

The band had prepared three songs to perform on stage at the contest. The songs included a march entitled "The Showboy," a second tune entitled "Green Willow Portrait," and the last song entitled "Fantasy on Yankee Doodle."

The truck was unloaded, the instruments were uncased, and the uniforms were put on, but before the band knew it, it was time to perform.

The band performed at 11:30 and did a great job. After the band left the stage, they had to go to sightreading. Sightreading is where the band sits down in front of one judge and reads a chorale and another piece of music that they have never seen before. The band left the room and everyone gave a sigh of relief. Uniforms were then taken off, instruments loaded, and the truck was reloaded while the students waited for the scores. Mr.

Grimes, Brooks Creel, Josh Lawford, Pete Manning, Aaron Coleman, Brandon Salter, Aaron Coleman, Blake Lambert, Marcus Henderson, Jason Curran, Rick Smith, Kyle English, Patrick Tyson and Ralston Moore.

Their first game was Thursday, March 2, at Arton.

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SPORTS

Views from...

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Birthday cake continued to be the favorite snack around the Mularz house last week as it took us over a week to finish off the cake that helped Melissa celebrate her 17th birthday. The family party took place Tuesday night after two softball games, and before working on a term paper. However, Melissa seemed happy with the day's events, and went to bed that night another year wiser, and very tired.

A VERY GOOD WEEK FOR ELBA HIGH ATHLETICS

The various sports teams at Elba High School were very busy last week all across South Alabama, but it was a very enjoyable week for the players and their fans as the Tiger baseball team won three straight games to improve their record to 4-1, the Lady Tigers won three games to push their record to 3-0, the Lady Tiger JV's won two of three games to up their record to 4-1, and the Tiger golf team opened its season with a first place finish in a four-team match in Troy. Spring has sprung, and so have the wins for the Elba Tigers!

The Elba softball team was a source of concern after the Tigers lost their opener to Arton and narrowly got by Kingston, but the Tigers bounced back with a vengeance last week and disposed of Highland Home, Brantley and Luverne to push their winning streak to four games. The Tigers were thought to be sold on the mound, and have been just that as senior Brooks Creel and junior Brandon Salter have both shown that they are indeed two of the top prep pitchers around. Elba's hitting, or a lack of hitting, was a major concern for Coach Wynn Grimes. That concern was eased somewhat last week, as senior Dustin Stinson ripped three home-runs in a two-game span, Brooks Creel and Pete Manning put the ball in play consistently, and freshman Kyle English came through with four hits and five RBI's in a big area win over Luverne. The Tigers' season has just started, but the fast early start has the Tigers and their fans excited about many more wins to come.

The Elba softball team opened its season last week and came through with three wins over cross-county rivals Kinston and New Brocton. The Lady Tigers showed that they could bat the ball all around the park in the doubleheader sweep over Kinston, as Melissa Grantham, Melissa Mularz and Roshanda McKinnon combined for 18 hits, 15 runs and 16 runs batted in in the two season opening wins. The Lady Tigers found the runs harder to come by against New Brocton, but shut out their cross-county rivals for six innings and overcame two late errors to pull out the win. The Lady Tigers have already shown that they can score runs, and play defense, and if they can improve as the season progresses, Coach Mike Waters' troops should chalk up many more wins as the season rolls along.

The Elba junior varsity softball team suffered its first loss of the season, but won two of three games and in doing so improved its record to 4-1. The Lady Tiger JV's have scored runs in bunches throughout the season, and are loaded with talented players, as is evident by the fact that Coach David Collins plays two different teams every time the girls play a double-header. The first team to hit the field is loaded with freshmen, while the seventh and eighth graders take the field for the second game. The split squads could lead to a few losses against better teams, however, it is good for the overall program, and that is what counts even more than wins in a season. This bunch of girls will get their share of wins, no matter which team is on the field.

The Elba golf team opened its season with an impressive win over perennial powers up in Troy, and showed everyone in attendance that the youthful Tiger golfers are a talented bunch. The Tigers top four golfers - Colby Capps, Bart Barnes, Justin Allen and Ben Dye are all eighth and ninth graders, while eighth grader Derrick Thomas and sophomores Neil Grantham and Chris Turner round out the squad. The opening win came over SA Charles Henshaw 4A, Headland and the power Houston Academy, and should give the Elba golfers the confidence that in golf age means very little when you are talented, and love to compete. Coach Susan Barnes and her golfers could be in for quite a season.

DUSTING OFF THE DESK...

*** I take back everything negative I said about Auburn's Coach Cliff Ellis! Whether I am an Auburn fan or not, I have to give the Tiger coach a pat on the back for the way he regrouped his team after the Chris Porter suspension and put a new look team on the court in the SEC tournament. Coach Ellis and his staff went back to the drawing board after losing Porter, and devised a plan that would allow the remaining players to best utilize their individual talents, and the results were amazing. Good job Coach, heck, it may even be your best job.

*** I have watched a lot of basketball the past week or two, and plan on really becoming a college fan this week as the NCAA tourney gets into full swing. I will pull for all of the SEC teams, and am a big Duke and Indiana fan, while I also have to admit that it is fun to see the smaller schools knock off some of the big boys. March Madness is a special time of the year for all college basketball fans, and I am a true fan of the sport. I can't wait for the fun to tip off.

*** I know the NIT is pretty much a meaningless event, but it could make for some interesting match-ups if the NIT match-makers would look at state rivalries and set up some opening round games that would at least have local interest. How about an opener with Troy State against Alabama, or maybe Florida State against South Florida, and how about Clemson against the University of Charleston. Oh well, the possibilities are limitless, and I thought it might just live on an otherwise meaningless tournament.

*** The loss of Atlanta Braves pitcher John Smoltz for the season has even the bigger Braves fans scratching their heads and wondering just what is going to happen. If Chipper Jones has to rest due to his elbow problems or some of the older Atlanta players don't pick up the slack, it could be a real struggle for the Braves. I am still upset that they didn't sign Ken Griffey. So, if the Braves do struggle, it will be in part to their own making. If the Braves win that will be great. However, if they don't, I hope the Braves officials that get so much credit when Atlanta wins will at least get some of the blame. Like it or not, I think it is past time for the Braves to re-work their entire team for the future.

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1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments
3-Bedroom Townhouses

Units available for elderly, handicapped & disabled

Included FREE!

Water, sewage, garbage pick-up and pest control

On-site laundry facilities
& playground for childrenOffice open Mon-Fri
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897-3517 • HIGHWAY 84 W. ELBA, AL

Grab early-season area win

Elba Tigers clobber Luverne 17-6



COACH WYNN GRIMES

The Elba Tigers claimed a big early-season win Friday afternoon when they spanked the Luverne Tigers 17-6 in Luverne.

The win was the fourth straight for Elba and upped their record to 4-1, 1-0 in Class 3A, Area 3 action.

Elba jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Brooks Creel reached on a walk, stole second and third, and then trotted home on an RBI single by Brandon Salter.

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Elba Elementary releases names of Honor Roll students

Elba Elementary School Honor Roll

"A" Honor Roll

1st Grade

Keyawne Gavin, Xavier Rodgers, Braun Robinson, Chastity Slenker, Cameron Johnson, Kristin Kelley, Brittany Hudson, Dakota Morris, Kierra Hammonds, Breann Austin, Lindsey Carley, Gage Craig, Cortnee Driggers, Christopher Nelson, Isaac Nelson, Haley Bryan, Jesse Stokes, Tony Morris, Billy Driggers, Andrew Coleman, Daniel Bannin, Kedall Cole, Dylan Garner, Molly McGuire, Courtney Rugg, Bethany Wilson, Kayla Parks, Chance Goodby, Ashton Davis, William Petty, Lindsey Smith, Jeffrey Hill

2nd Grade

Jamie Carley, Jabari Cole, Taylor Cotton, Robby Forbes, Catherine Irwin, Ethan Carpenter, Ken Jones, Jason Cooper, Alecia Baxter, Devin Jackson, Brandon Byrd, Ty Gray, Dylan Hays, D.J. McKee, Kyle Pope, Latanda Tyson, Marshall George, Lindsay Haley, Dannel Horstead, Andrevia "JoJo" McBride, Jonathan Farmer, Taylor Creech, Tyrese Daniels, Daniqua Horstead, Jonathan Keller, Brock Lankert, Emily Miller, Ryan Pope, Jean Rodgers

3rd Grade

Kim Blue, Kelly Corder, Michael

Jackson, Dylan McCollough, Shanika Pruitt, Autumn Sasser, Jamison Baker, Cortin Lee, David Maddaloni, Jason Mitchell, Ashley Bailey, Meredith Brunson, Griffin Cash, Megan Sullivan, Trey Belcher, Andrew Head, Cody Sasser, Ethen Dismukes, Drew Ellis, April Finedore, Jordan McBride, Bradley Wilson, Mercedes Steven

4th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

5th Grade

Branna Bailey, Brian Blair, Anna Petty, Katie Cash, Adam Henderson

6th Grade

Ashleigh Waddall, Kayla Kelley, Elena McCormick, Ashley Walden, Casey Medlock

"A-B" Honor Roll

1st Grade
Lance Chambers, Paige Jones, Jantzen Flowers, Brittany Hay, Emilee Sasser, Jessica Orr, Kendra Silar, Sydney Crittendon, Branton Bowers, Dylan Seay, Antigaeus Dixon, Devonta Tillis, Amber Hudson, Sydney Williamson, Hannah Morgan, Joseph Cowwell, Aspen Puckett, Michael Martin, Melaine Miller, Nikki Prettyman, Kendrick Robertson, Verlingqua Hooks, Saliha Duncan, Morgan Oglesby, Dylan Tysinger, Tyron Burks

2nd Grade

Seth Walden, Sherie McNeal, Kevin Allen, Brianna Rogers, Jonathan Sasser, Kareem Silar, Timothy Simmons, Shabreka Tyson, Lindsay Cash, Megan Sullivan, Trey Belcher, Andrew Head, Cody Sasser, Ethen Dismukes, Drew Ellis, April Finedore, Jordan McBride, Bradley Wilson, Mercedes Steven

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Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

74th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

75th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

76th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

77th Grade

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79th Grade

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80th Grade

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81st Grade

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82nd Grade

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83rd Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

84th Grade

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91st Grade

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92nd Grade

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93rd Grade

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99th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

100th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

101st Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

102nd Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

103rd Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

104th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

105th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

106th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

107th Grade

Brittany Phillips, Don Rhoades, Matthew Gibson, Trey Martin, Austin Parrish

Elba & Zion Chapel beauties compete for crown

Emma Kelley
Miss Elba Contestant

Emily Benbow
Miss Elba Contestant

Kimberly Ward
Miss Elba Contestant

The Miss Elba and Miss Zion Chapel pageants will be held March 18 at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium. Admission is \$4 and children three and under will be admitted for free. The Elba Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to come out and support these beautiful contestants and see who is crowned as the queens of the "New Millennium."

Lauren Sully
Miss Elba Contestant

Valerie Moore
Miss Elba Contestant

Courtney Moran
Miss Elba Contestant

Jessica Kelley
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Jill Jorgahl
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Katelyn Elders
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Sarah Maddox
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Anna Anderson
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Anna Harrison
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Cameron Davis
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Emily Pind
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Kari Grantham
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Lauren Moore
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Lauren Sully
Miss Elba Contestant

Mary Katherine Head
Miss Elba Contestant

Chelsea Cooper
Miss Elba Contestant

Ashley Winkles
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Amanda Johnson
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Whitney Stephens
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Heather Golden
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Amber Hulton
Miss Elba Contestant

Bethany Lynn Wilson
Miss Elba Contestant

Breana Austin
Miss Elba Contestant

Cortnee Bessie Driggers
Miss Elba Contestant

Lindsay Conley
Miss Elba Contestant

Molly McGraw
Miss Elba Contestant

Nikki Fuller
Miss Elba Contestant

Sarina Renee Chavez
Miss Elba Contestant

Courtney Rugg
Miss Elba Contestant

Hannah Morgan
Miss Elba Contestant

Natalie Culbertson
Miss Elba Contestant

Kelli Deane Behrens
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Allaine Cecilia Davis
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Kimberley Paige Gibson
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Shelby Boswell
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Taylor Faulkner
Miss Zion Chapel Contestant

Good Luck
to this year's contestants as they compete for the chance to represent their community!!

An invitation

The Elba Chamber of Commerce requests the honor of your presence Saturday, March 18, 2000 at the Elba High School Auditorium at 6 o'clock in the evening for the crowning of queens

in the categories of:

Miss Elba, Miss Zion Chapel,

Jr. Miss Elba, Jr. Miss Zion Chapel,

Little Miss Elba, Little Miss Zion Chapel,

Future Little Miss Elba and Future Little Miss Zion Chapel.

Admission is \$4. Free admission for children age 3 and under.



AREA NEWS

FSA election results released



Results of the March 6 election of FSA committee persons in Local Administrative Area No. 3 were announced by Dennis Smith, chairperson of the Coffee County FSA Committee. Out of a total of 1,143 eligible farmers who were eligible to vote, 148 votes were cast.

Farmers elected to the FSA Committee were as follows: County Committee Member - Charles Michael Hines; First Alternate - Olene H. Howell; Second Alternate - Kevin S. White.

Smith also announced that an organization meeting will be held at the first regular COC meeting in April before regular COC business is conducted. The chairperson, vice-chairperson and regular member will be determined at this organizational meeting.

Phil Farris of Elba received a leadership award during the Alabama Cattlemen's Association annual convention held in Montgomery. Farris was recognized for exceeding his county membership goal last year while serving as 1999 president of the Coffee County Cattlemen's Association. Farris, second from left, is pictured with Steve Amos of Colbert County, Wayne Roughton of Bullock County and Pete Jackson of Cleburne County.

SAR to meet March 16th

A videotape on a 1999 program in Elba High School for 300 sixth graders will be shown when members of the Wiregrass Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, meet at noon March 16 in Po' Folks Restaurant in Enterprise.

The program will follow a short business meeting where the focus will be on naming those heading the various programs of the local chapter for the coming year, said Richard Kemp, chapter president.

All current, past and prospective

members are invited whether or not affiliated with the chapter. "We actively seek new members in Coffee and Geneva Counties," Kemp said.

An applicant is required to document a family blood line to a Revolutionary War patriot to win acceptance by the National Society and the Alabama society, he said.

Anyone interested may contact Kemp at 774-9965, John Ray Fuller at 347-4213 or John R. Wallace at 347-0661.

NOTICE

Need help filling out your 2000 census form? See a question assistance clerk at the Elba Public Library. Help will be available at the following times: Monday, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.; and Friday, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

SKINNER'S FURNITURE

SALE COMING TO AN END!

LAST 3 DAYS!

FINAL HOURS!

Wall-To-Wall Sell Off!

CLOSING FOREVER!

Regardless of Cost or Loss!

\$6,000,000 INVENTORY LIQUIDATION!

La-Z-Boy, Action Lane, Bench Craft, Zenith, Grand Design, Style Line, England Corsair!

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

LAST CHANCE!

Make Us An Offer!

Building For Lease
Trucks For Sale

Sofa's • Mattresses • Occasional Tables •

ALL PURCHASES MUST BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY!

SKINNER'S FURNITURE

Contemporary SOFA & LOVE SEAT
was \$1279.70
now **\$590.95**

SPECIAL HOURS
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
10-6

ALL MIRRORS & PICTURES 50% OFF

7 PC SOLID WOOD BEDROOM SUITE
was \$2529.65
now **\$1329.95**

WE ACCEPT:
Cash, Checks, Mastercard & Visa, financing available with approved credit!

ALL APPLIANCES 40% OFF

ALEXANDER CITY, AL
169 Franklin Street

BRENTON, AL
123 Midland Street

CEADARTOWN, GA
419 S. College Street

CUTHBERT, GA
115 Blakely Street

FRANKLIN, AL
300 Main Street

SELMA, AL
128 Main Street

TALLADEGA, AL
154 Main Street

LANGSTON, AL
114 Main Street

THOMASVILLE, GA
217 N. Church Street

GREENSBORO, AL
1313 Main Street

MONROEVILLE, AL
53 N. Main Street

MANCHESTER, GA
120 Main Street

THOMASVILLE, GA
217 N. Church Street

Southern Country Realty

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202 Pickens, Between Wetzel Family Shop and Family Tree Day Care

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We Have A Home or Land To Suit Your Budget!

***NEW LISTINGS*NEW LISTINGS*NEW LISTINGS**

New Listing - Country Home
w/3BR • Central H&C • Pecan Trees • New 10x20 Storage Bldg.
1 AC +/-
\$43,500

New Listing - Smith Avenue
3BR 2 Bath Home w/Rental House • 15+/- AC Pond inside City limits
\$115,000

1027 Sunset Blvd. • 2,804
Sq. ft. • 1.1AC +/- • 3BR • 2 Baths • Brick Home, Deck, Detached Apartment, Dbl. Carport, Hardwood Floors, Formal LR & DR, Game Room, Central H&C
\$85,900

976 Sunset Blvd. • 3BR - 2
Bath Brick Home • Storage Bldg. • Quiet Neighborhood
\$39,900

1133 Neil Grantham Dr. • 3BR - 1 Bath • Alum. Siding
Nice Starter or Retirement Home
\$34,900

333 Plant Ave. • 3BR - 2
Bath • Brick Home Remodeled In 1998 Central Heating & Cooling
\$48,000

933 Winston St. • 1,804 Sq. Ft.
3BR • 3 Bath • Dbl. Car Garage & Deck • 15x30 Storage Bldg.
\$84,900

Investment Property • 8
Rental Units With Potential Monthly Income of \$2,300
\$224,900

County Road 349 • 1991 Liberty
14x70 Mobile Home On 1/2 Acre Lot • 3BR • 1 Bath
\$19,500

Country Home • 2BR Home
on 7.5 Acres • Located on Co. Rd. 239
\$74,900

331 Adkison St. • 3BR - 2
Bath • Central H&C • Insulated Windows • recently Remodeled • Partial Owner Financing Available • 80x190 Lot
\$37,500

1131 Guyton St. • 2BR - 1
Bath
\$19,500

To Be Moved • 1998 Sunshine
Mobile Home 16x80 • All Electric • Deck • Like New!
\$17,900

In Town • 1989 3BR - 2 Bath
Mobile Home 20x40 SHIP • Cedar Lane Dr. 100x200 Lot
\$27,900

In Town • 703 Plant Avenue
• 3BR • 1 Bath • 2-Car Carport
\$37,500

Country Home • 1 AC +/-
Completely Remodeled 2BR - 1 Bath • Freshly painted Interior • New Carpet, Vinyl, light Fixtures & Ceiling Fans • Real Bargain
\$34,900

Saddle Hill Community • 10.59
Acres w/2,792 Sq. Ft. Home • Partially Renovate • Double Wide Mobile Home

Old Beaver Dam Primitive Baptist Church
• Located on Brantley Highway AL 189 North of Elba • Brick Bldg. • 2 Restrooms.
\$15,000

2351 Hickman Ave. • 1470
Sq. ft. Brock house • Nice Storage Bldg. • This Property Is Immaculate!
\$37,900 **\$49,900**

LOT AT GANTT LAKE
\$18,000

MUST SEE! Land For Sale • 40AC +/- (35 AC
Planted In Pines) In Wilkenstown Area

CO. RD. 239 • 61 AC w/27
AC in Pasture & 34 AC in Planted Pines • 1AC pond
\$98,500

18 AC +/- Commercial Property • Located
On AL Hwy. 166 w/Large 3BR - 2 Bath Brick Home

Great Weekend Get-away - Perfect For
Fishing & Skiing • Lot & Mobile Home At Gantt Lake On A 89 ft x 250 ft lot • 1975 Mobile Home • 2BR, 1 Bath • Access To Boat Ramp & Pier.
\$22,900

REDUCED! REDUCED! • Two 12-AC Parcels • Co. Rd. 349 • Parcel #1 Reduced To \$1250/AC - parcel #2 Reduced To \$1200/AC

22 AC HORSE FARM • Near New
Brockton • Fenced • Horse barn • Storage Shop Bldg. • 2000 Sq. Ft. Brick Home w/Gunite Pool

Continued from front

Commission struggles with jail problems

of their cells after midnight into an area that they shouldn't have been in and got a plate off the wall that someone should have seen them taking off during that time."

Lewis then asked that the commission instruct the county administrator to "contact somebody that knows how to build jails, fix jails, put new locks on the [cell] doors, take whatever steps are necessary to fix the doors, fix the vents and whatever needs to be done to the jail to prevent any further escapes."

Commissioner Robert Stephens made a motion to do whatever is necessary to keep the prisoners in jail. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Len Averett.

An amendment to the motion by Commissioner Lallymple to use the \$37,000 that had been approved previously for building construction in this year's budget for this purpose passed by a 6-1 vote. Averett cast the lone opposing vote.

Stephens' motion as amended passed by a unanimous vote.

Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates addressed the commission saying, "I share the concern of every commissioner here, especially when it comes to escape."

The sheriff noted that he is willing to take the responsibility upon himself and the members of his staff for the custody and control of the inmates placed in the county jail; however, he did say that there is not a correctional facility in existence that is designed and built to hold every person all the time.

"We're going to continue to do what we can, with the help of the commission, to correct these problems to hopefully ensure this [escape] will not happen again," added Sheriff Moates.

The sheriff commented on the problem of the cells not locking by noting that the computerized system which indicates to the jailer if a cell door is not secure has been

causing some problems. Moates also indicated that the cell door can be tampered with so that they will not close properly.

After several more minutes of discussion between the sheriff and the commission, it was concluded that the bottom line was that the mechanical problems with the jail would be fixed.

Commissioners Tom Grimsley and Dairymple reported that their recent trip to the Nation's Capitol was a positive one.

Their meetings with the local Congressional delegation was well received on projects such as the lake (water reservoir and recreation), further development of the Coffee County Water Authority, and major road connectors such as I-10 and AL Hwy. 167. They promised their support in all these undertakings.

In other business the commission took the following actions:

***Voted to honor the Elba Police Department's request for assistance in funding additional E-911 operators. The county will provide \$750 per month through September of 2000. The E-911 Board had already agreed to provide an additional \$750 through September 2000.

***A motion was made that all department heads be invited to the commission meetings to include any work session held by the commission.

***Approved sending out bid invitations on motorgrader blades.

***Voted to turn over funds (\$2,600) received from the Social Security Administration on behalf of eligible prisoners to the sheriff for law enforcement expenses.

***Approved sending out invitations to bid on the publication of the voters list.

***Approved \$3,300 to be used toward the landscaping of the Elba Courthouse.

Small ads are read . . .

. . . see, you are reading this one!!

BENTON'S

Bypass Shopping Center (Next to Whitman Drugs)

**Popcorn Shrimp
w/ Fries, Slaw &
Hushpuppies**
\$2.99

**Fresh
Shrimp or Oyster
Dinners**
\$6.99

**Small
Hamburger, Fries
& Drink**
\$2.99

Monday Nights - 3 for 2 Night
Buy the same item on the menu for 2 people
and get the 3rd one Free!!

(Bring a friend. Bring your mother-in-law. Feed one for FREE)

**CALL US AT 897-1253
FOR CARRYOUT!!**

Tips For Getting On Line

(NAPS)—By learning more about what you can get online, you may be in line for some savings. Not all Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are alike. Here's what to look for:

1. You don't have to spend a lot just to get online. Some providers, such as Surftee.com, offer unlimited Internet access for as low as \$14.95 per month (20 to 40 percent lower than most).

2. Look for unlimited dial-up Internet access with speeds up to 56K. There should be no set-up fees or usage limits applied and members should be able to access their account from a wide variety of phone numbers.

3. E-mail should be free. Additional free mailboxes are included by the top providers.

4. Customer support should be available 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week with a toll-free number. Some ISPs also allow you to try the service without risk. Surftee.com, for example, comes with a 30-day money back guarantee.

5. Some services even pay you for referring friends and family. Surftee.com pays members \$20 for each new member referral.

To sign-up or order free start-up software, visit www.surftee.com or call 888/678-7373.

Elba General Hospital & Nursing Home sponsoring cancer detection program

The Breast & Cervical Cancer early Detection Program of Alabama is being sponsored locally by the Elba General Hospital & Nursing Home.

The program, which will last approximately an hour, will be held on March 22, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. in the conference room of Elba General Hospital. It is free and the public is invited to attend.

The speaker for the program will be Jean Daniels-Terry, Educator with the Coffee County Family Services Center.

This program provides breast and cervical screenings for women who meet the following eligibility guidelines:

- Primarily women age 40 and older
- Women without insurance or who are uninsured

City Council moves forward with improvement projects

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Red Cross to hold Health & Safety Classes

The American Red Cross of Coffee County will hold Health and Safety Classes at the Enterprise Civic Center, 711 W. Crawford St., Enterprise, on the following dates:

Adult CPR - Mon., Mar. 20, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Infant and Child CPR - Tues., Mar. 21, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

First Aid - Thurs., Mar. 23, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Cost will be \$15.00 for the CEAS book, which will cover all classes, and a fee of \$15.00 for each class.

• Women who meet the income guidelines below

A woman who meets the eligibility requirements receives: A FREE pelvic exam and pap smear; a FREE clinical breast exam; and a FREE mammogram (age 50 and older).

The following numbers represent the household size and annual, monthly and weekly incomes respectively:

1 \$16,480 \$1,373 \$317
2 \$22,120 \$1,843 \$425
3 \$27,760 \$2,313 \$534
4 \$33,400 \$2,783 \$642
5 \$39,040 \$3,253 \$751
6 \$44,680 \$3,723 \$859

For more information concerning the program and to register, call Jan Wicker at 897-2257 ext. 225.

are actually using this leg this week. Taylor Mill Road lacks about 30 days of work. Highway 84 East should be completed next week.

The Samson Highway is expected to be finished in about two weeks, and Smith Avenue still has about 30 days of work left.

The much smaller CDBG grand funded sewer work on Highway 84 West is behind, but moving forward, Morrow said.

The clerk also reported that condemned signs have been posted on the Elba side of the old railroad trestle. A recent fire burned cross ties almost into and it is actually

dangerous to try to stand on them. He said additional work will be done soon to prevent someone from getting hurt in this area.

Morrow said he is working with SE Alabama Regional Planning to find grant funds to purchase a larger emergency generator for the police department. The present generator does not put out enough power to operate all the normal police needs and the new 911 equipment.

Mayor Grimes told council members that the last six homes in the flood buy-out have been approved as meeting federal qualifications and will be purchased as soon as

possible. The city is currently reviewing the reports for the last month show two officers each doing more than everyone else in the department combined. Whitworth said he is reviewing the tickets written by these two officers to insure they are necessary and also asking why some officers are making no arrest month after month.

City Clerk Donnie Morrow updated council members on the status of the two sewer projects presently underway in Elba. The major \$4 million project is nearing completion. In Brookdale they are now repaving and fixing driveways, but Morrow said he is no longer trying to tell people when that will be completed. Highway 189 North is completed and five new customers

House Votes to Increase Bomb Threat Penalties

Lawmakers want the bomb threats to stop. House members voted unanimously recently to pass a bill that will make bomb threats punishable for up to 10 years in prison. The bills were sponsored by Representative Howard Hawk (D - Arab) and Senator Phil Poole (D - Moundville).

"Alabama schools have been plagued with an increased number of bomb threats over the past year. While it is a relief that the threats have been false alarms so far, each one terrorizes our children and poses a serious disruption in school classes," states Representative Terry Spicer (D - Elba). "Almost every Representative has had something happen either in or near their district."

Under current law, such threats are a Class A misdemeanor that carries a maximum penalty of a \$2,000 fine. With the passage of this bill, the penalty becomes a Class C Felony.

"I have worked on this issue for several years. I think the reports of school violence in other states compounded with the growing number of school closings due to these threats has pushed this issue to the front burner," said Representative Hawk, author of the House version of the bill. "We hope that increasing the penalty will give local District Attorneys a stronger tool to crack down on these terrorists."

The proposal has earned endorsements by the Alabama District Attorney Association and Governor Don Siegelman. The bill goes to the to the Governor's desk for signature where it is expected to be signed.

She said in the past, communities participating in the Main Street



Rep. Terry Spicer

Several school districts have reported a rise in the number of bomb threats in the past year including Montgomery, Cullman and Mobile. Trying to get a handle on the problem has been a challenge for local and state officials.

When a threat is made, school officials do not have a choice but to evacuate the school. Sometimes the students miss only one class, other times the school is closed for the day.

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DAR Honors EHS
Senior
Josh Lawford



Vaughan Boyd
Awarded
Leadership
Scholarship



Ware Named To
All-State
Basketball
Team



Traditional
Ceremony
Unites
Brunson-Doom



The Elba Clipper

Volume 103, Number 41

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 23, 2000

1 Section, 12 Pages

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION FOR COMMUNITIES

Alabama Main Street Program explained

by Linda Hodge, Staff Writer

The Alabama Main Street Program was the topic of discussion Monday evening in Elba as a representative of the program visited with local officials, business leaders and interested citizens.

Alta Cassidy, state coordinator of the Alabama Main Street Program, spoke to the crowd of approximately 30 people about the possibility of bringing the main street program to Elba.

"This is a downtown revitalization program for communities with historic buildings," said Cassidy. "It is designed for cities under 50,000 in population."

She said the Alabama Main Street Program is administered by the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC).

The program was developed in the early 1980s when AHC offered grants to towns interested in doing something to preserve their downtown commercial districts.

Cassidy said unfortunately there still is no direct funding for the Main Street Program, but the matching grant programs remain.

"This is basically a self-help program," said Cassidy. "We do offer the grants, which require matching funds from the local government, but most of the funds for the Main Street Program must come from private investment."

She said in the past, communities participating in the Main Street

Program have shown figures of a \$60 private investment to every dollar invested by the local or county government.

Several communities which have participated in the Alabama Main Street Program include: Alexander City, Anniston, Decatur, Dothan, Florence, Gadsden, Greeneville, Opelika, Selma, Tusculumbia and Winfield. In these cities, Cassidy said the program has reportedly helped in creating 4,035 net new jobs, 1,030 net new businesses, \$66,553,261 in public improvements and \$217,193,241 in private sector investment in building rehabilitation projects. She said these cumulative reinvestment statistics reflect participation through Dec. 31, 1998.

Cassidy presented those in attendance with a list of criteria for participation in the Alabama Main Street Program. The list included such criteria as: A commitment to survey historic resources in the downtown area and to nominate those structures eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; A commitment to encourage property owners to return facades of historic commercial buildings to their original appearance and to retain any historically or architecturally significant interiors; Development of a broad-based community support for the comprehensive Four Point Main Street Approach to revitalization of the downtown area; Evidence of

funding and programmatic support for the program from both the public and private sectors of the community; An adequate operating budget that provides for a paid, professional program manager and ongoing training for the program manager to include attendance at the statewide quarterly program managers' meeting and the National Town Meeting; An active board of directors that develops a mission statement relevant to community conditions and determine the goals and objectives of the local organization; Reporting of key reinvestment statistics on a calendar year basis; A member of the National Main Street Network implementing the methodology developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation; A commitment to the preservation ethic; a commitment to encourage use of the historic preservation tax incentives; and a commitment to encourage the implementation of a local historic preservation ordinance establishing a local preservation commission with design review.

Cassidy said it usually takes around two years to get a main street program going, and every program will have its own needs.

"Local main street program organizations develop their own boundaries of what they want to include in the revitalization," she said.

Please See MAIN, Page 3



ELBA'S NEWEST ANTIQUE...The Elba Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed Recollections, Antiques and Uniques to the city's business industry last Friday, March 17, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Several local officials and leaders were on hand to help welcome Elba's newest piece of history into business. Recollections, Antiques and Uniques is located on the historic downtown square in the old Martin's building. The store's owner, Pat Powell, said she plans to have a grand opening celebration at a later date. Those present for Friday's ribbon cutting ceremony were (from left to right): Jeanette Tillis; Dawn Austin; Shay Johnson, Jr. Miss Elba; Chad White; Ronnie Hammond, councilman representing the City of Elba; Aaron Powell; Pat Powell, owner; Nikki Fuller, Future Little Miss Elba; Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce; Roland Powell, owner; Don Napper; Leslie Stinson, Miss Elba; and Herby McCall.

Piggly Wiggly Mid-South, Inc. employees buy company

On Feb. 29, the employees of Piggly Wiggly Mid-South, Inc. through its Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) purchased the division of the Company from Mr. Kenneth Storey, owner and president, for an undisclosed amount. The sale includes the Elba Market Place store located at 638 N. Claxton Avenue, Elba, Ala. Jeffery Nowling of Elba serves as the lead manager of this store.

The new company will continue to operate under the Piggly Wiggly Mid-South, Inc. name at least for the near future. The ESOP company will operate approximately 85 supermarkets in eight southern and mid-southern states, with its headquarters located in Sikeston, Mo. The company will be divided into three divisions, each being managed by a vice president.

Gary Duncan, formerly division manager of the Southern Division,

has been promoted to vice president of the Southern Division. He will operate out of the division office located in Hartford, Duncan also has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the company.

Mr. Ron Watkins, previously the company's chief financial officer, has been named president and CEO of the new company.

"The next several years will be exciting times for the company and the employees," Duncan said. "Employee ownership gives each employee an extra incentive to look at their job from a different light. As ESOP members, employees will look at ways of improving the operation of their store, improving operational efficiencies, and most of all, taking good care of the customer."

Company-wide meetings are scheduled to be held with all employees in the near future.

Area Happenings

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION. Elba Elementary School will hold Kindergarten Registration on March 23 (TODAY) and 24 from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the EES Conference Room. Parents will need to bring their child's birth certificate, social security card and Alabama state shot record (blue card).

PINE LEVEL SCHOOL REUNION. The Pine Level School Reunion will be held March 25 at 10 a.m. in the Elba High School cafeteria. Please bring a covered dish for dinner. Cups, plates, forks, spoons, paper towels and ice will be provided. Teachers and anyone who attended Pine Level School are invited to attend.

NAACP MEETING. The Coffee County NAACP will hold its monthly meeting 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 25, 2000, at Johns Chapel AME Church in Enterprise. Members and prospective members are urged to attend. The NAACP Executive Board will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, March 24, 2000, at Johns Chapel AME Church in Enterprise.

COMMISSION MEETING. The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, March 27, 2000, at 9 a.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, Ala.

COFFEE COUNTY PAGEANTS' DEADLINE. Coffee County Pageants have been set for April 30 in the Elba High School auditorium. Deadline to enter the pageant is April 2. The first mandatory meeting is April 2 at Dances, Inc. in Enterprise. Little Miss and Miss will meet at 3 p.m. with all other categories meeting at 1 p.m. For more information, please call Teressa Dutton at 347-2848 or Karen Patrick at 347-9667.

City of Elba receives grant for 2 police cars

by Marvin McLWain, Editor

The City of Elba and the police department received some good news from the Governor's Office Tuesday.

In a fax to *The Elba Clipper*, Governor Don Siegelman announced that he had notified Elba Mayor James Grimes that he had approved the city's request for a \$43,697 grant to purchase two (2) new police cars with updated equipment.

"Law enforcement officials need safe and up-to-date equipment in order to adequately serve and protect their community," Gov. Siegelman said. "I am pleased to provide these funds to the City of Elba to purchase new patrol cars."

Funding for the grant was provided to the state through the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program of the U. S. Department of Justice. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community

Affairs (ADECA), directed by Dwayne Freeman, administers the grant.

Elba Police Chief R. W. "Ronnie" Whitworth was pleased to hear that the grant had been approved. The application was made several months ago with the assistance of Fredrick Hamilton, who is with the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development commission.

"These new patrol cars will have the latest equipment available installed in them," said Chief Whitworth. "This will include new radios and video cameras with taping equipment."

He said that the city has been fortunate during his tenure in that it has only had to purchase and pay for totally two new patrol cars. He pointed out that other patrol cars have been bought and/or replaced with disaster funds due to past floods - the most recent of these being in 1998.

The average life of patrol cars for the city of Elba is approximately two years with between 80,000 and 100,000 miles being put on them annually.

The oldest patrol car now in service is a 1990. The department's K-

Put on a Show...Contestants in the Miss Elba and Zion Chapel pageants last Saturday night, March 18, began the evening having a whole lot of fun as they entertained the audience by performing a dance number to the music of country star, Shania Twain. Above, 1999 Jr. Miss Elba Shay Johnson (left) and 1999 Miss Elba Leslie Stinson (right) lead the way during the performance as Miss Elba contestant Valerie Moore (back left) and Miss Zion Chapel contestant Kayla Eddins (back, right) enthusiastically follow. After performing the dance number together, all the contestants showed their individual talents as they competed for the crown.

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